

Serial No. 10/643,946

ASA-1145

Amendment

Responsive to Office Action dated October 31, 2007

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 31 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for treating a perfluorocompound comprising a means for obtaining a gas flow by diluting a perfluorocompound with nitrogen or air;

a means for adding steam to said gas flow;

a reactor for bringing said gas flow containing the added steam into contact with a catalyst to decompose the perfluorocompound;

a heating means for heating said catalyst comprising Ni, Al and W as catalytically active ingredients and comprising a composite oxide of Ni and Al and a composite oxide of Ni and W which has been packed in said reactor, to the decomposition temperature of the perfluorocompound;

an exhaust gas washing tank for bringing a gas containing decomposition products produced in said reactor into contact with water or an alkali to remove hydrogen fluoride from the gas, wherein

a mole number of W is less than a mole number of Ni, and the mole number of Ni is less than a mole number of Al; and

said catalyst contains W in a proportion of 1 to 5 wt% based on a total weight of said catalyst comprising a composite oxide of Ni and Al.

Serial No. 10/643,946

ASA-1145

Amendment

Responsive to Office Action dated October 31, 2007

7. (Original) An apparatus for treating an etching gas wherein an apparatus for treating a perfluorocompound according to claim 6 is set so as to succeed an etching apparatus for a semiconductor or liquid crystal, whereby the etching gas is treated.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said catalyst comprises Ni and Al in a mole ratio of 5/95 to 40/60 ~~and contains W in a proportion of 0.1 to 10 wt% based on the total weight of said catalyst comprising composite oxide of Ni and Al.~~

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said catalyst comprises Ni and Al in a mole ratio of 5/95 to 40/60 ~~and contains W in a proportion of 0.1 to 10 wt% based on the total weight of said catalyst comprising a composite oxide of Ni and Al.~~

10. (New) An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said catalyst is produced by preparing the composite oxide of Ni and Al, and subsequently impregnating the composite oxide with a W compound.